Case 08-40238 Doc 38 Filed 03/06/ ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COXERNATE	THE THE THE THE PROPERTY PROPE
ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COOKING AT	PPHage 1 of 12
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANTS
David M. Nickless, Trustee	Prime Title Services, Inc.
Duvid IV.	Erin McSweeney
	Peter Pappas and
	The Massachusetts IOLTA Committee
Address and Telephone No.)	ATTORNEY (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)
ATTORNEY (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Nickless and Phillips, P.C.	
Susan H. Christ 625 Main Street	
Fitchburg, MA 01420 978-342-4590	
PARTY (Check One Box Only)	PARTY (Check One Box Only)
☐ Debtor ☐ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin	☐ Debtor ☐ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin
☐ Creditor ☐ Other	☐ Creditor X Other
X Trustee	□ Trustee
CAUSE OF ACTION: (WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAU	SE OF ACTION, INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATUTES INVOLVED)
Turnover of Property §542	
Turnover of Freperty 30 12	
NATU	RE OF SUIT
(Number of up to five (5) boxes starting with lead cause of acti	ion as 1, first alternative cause as 2, second alternative cause as 3, etc.)
CM /Droposty	FRBP 7001(6) - Dischargeability (continued)
FRBP 7001(1) - Recovery of Money/Property X 11 - Recovery of money/property - § 542 turnover of property	C 61 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(5), domestic support
☐ 12 - Recovery of money/property - § 547 preference	☐ 68 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(6), willful and malicious injury
☐ 13 - Recovery of money/property - § 548 fraudulent transfer	<ul> <li>☐ 63 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(8), student loan</li> <li>☐ 64 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(15), divorce of separation obligation</li> </ul>
☐ 14- Recovery of money/property - other	(other than domestic support)
FRBP 7001(2) - Validity, Priority or Extent of Lien	☐ 65 - Dischargeability - other
□ 21 – Validity, priority or extent of lien or other interest in property	man mood (m). It is notice that of
	FRBP 7001 (7) - Injunctive Relief  ☐ 71 - Injunctive relief - imposition of stay
FRBP 7001(3) - Approval of Sale Property	the state of the s
☐ 31 – Approval of sale of property of estate and of a co-owner - § 363(h	,
FRBP 7001(4) - Objection/Revocation of Discharge	FRBP 7001(8) Subordination of Claim or Interest  81 - Subordination of claim or interest
☐ 41 – Objection/ revocation of discharge § 727 (c),(d),(e)	1391 - Supordination of ciaim of interest
FRBP 7001 (5) Revocation of Confirmation	FRBP 7001 (9) Declaratory Judgment
□ 51 – Revocation of Confirmation	□ 91 – Declaratory Judgment
RFBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability	
# DEDD 7MN1(A) INCONGROENHIIIV	FRBP 7001(10) Determination of Removed Action
TIGG Dischargeability - 8 523(a)(1) (14), (14a) priority tax claims	FRBP 7001(10) Determination of Removed Action  01 – Determination of removed claim or cause
☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims	☐ 01 – Determination of removed claim or cause on,
☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims ☐ 62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation	□ 01 – Determination of removed claim or cause on,  Other
<ul> <li>66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims</li> <li>62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation actual fraud</li> <li>67 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement,</li> </ul>	Other    SS-SIPA Case - 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.
☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims ☐ 62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation	Other  Incomp. SS-SIPA Case - 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.
<ul> <li>☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims</li> <li>☐ 62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation actual fraud</li> <li>☐ 67 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, (continued next column)</li> </ul>	Other  SS-SIPA Case – 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.  Outer (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court if unrelated to bankruptcy case)
☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims ☐ 62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation actual fraud ☐ 67 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, (continued next column) ☐ Check if this case involves a substantive issue of state lateral column in the continued next column is continued next column.	Other  Sarceny SS-SIPA Case - 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.  Other SS-SIPA Case - 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.  Output Office of the seq. of
☐ 66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims ☐ 62 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation actual fraud ☐ 67 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, (continued next column)	Other  SS-SIPA Case – 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa et. seq.  Outer (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court if unrelated to bankruptcy case)

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Docume	ntPage 9 of 12 = ==		
BANKRUPTCY CASE IN WHICH T	HIS ADVERSARY PROCE	EDING ARISES	
	BANKRUPTCY CASE NUMBER		
NAME OF DEBTOR	08-40238-JBR		
Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc.	DIVISIONAL OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
DISTRICT IN WHICH CASE IS PENDING	=	Joel B. Rosenthal	
Western Division	Worcester		
RELATED ADVERSA	RY PROCEEDING (IF AN	ADVERSARY	
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT		
		PROCEEDING NO.	
	<u> </u>		
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSARY IS PENDING	DIVISIONAL OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSART IS A STATE OF	Į.		
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)		!	
/s/ Susan H. Christ			
	PRINT NAME OF ATTO	PNEV (OR PLAINTIFF)	
DATE:		Mari (OKI Banara)	
March 6, 2009	Susan H. Christ		
11101011 0, 200			

### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS WESTERN DIVISION

In re

Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc.

Debtor

Chapter 7 No. 08-40238-JBR

David M. Nickless, Trustee,
Plaintiff

Adv. Pro. No. 09-

V.

Prime Title Services, Inc., Erin McSweeney, Peter Pappas and The Massachusetts IOLTA Committee Defendants

### COMPLAINT FOR ACCOUNTING AND TURNOVER

#### **JURISDICTION**

1. This is a core proceeding and this Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §157(b) and §1334.

### **PARTIES**

- 2. On January 29, 2008, Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc., a Massachusetts Corporation ("the Debtor") filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. The Debtor's principal office is located at 2 Park Central Drive, Ste. 300, Southborough, MA 01772.
- 3. On January 30, 2008 David M. Nickless was duly appointed Trustee (hereinafter the "Trustee").
- 4. The Defendant, Prime Title Services, Inc. ("Prime Title") is a Delaware corporation with a principal office address of 2 Park Central Drive, Southborough, MA 01772.

- 5. The Defendant, Erin McSweeney, Esq. ("McSweeney"), is an attorney licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a residential address of 3 Admirals Lane Road, Southborough, MA 01772.
- 6. The Defendant, Peter C. Pappas, Esq. ("Pappas"), is an attorney licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with a residential address of 98 Harpin Street, Bellingham, MA 02019.
- 7. The Defendant, the Massachusetts IOLTA Committee, as appointed by the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, is located at Seven Winthrop Square, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02110-1245.

### **FACTS**

- 8. Prime Mortgage Financial, Inc. ("the Debtor") filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 7 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code on January 29, 2008.
  - 9. The Trustee was appointed thereafter on January 30, 2008.
- 10. Prime Title was organized by Aris Pappas, the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director of the Debtor corporation to handle a majority of the Debtor's closings.
- 11. McSweeney and Pappas were retained by Prime Title to conduct closings for the Debtor.
- 12. Upon information and belief, there are two Prime Title conveyancing accounts currently open at Citizens Bank ("Prime Title Accounts"), of which some or all of the funds being held in these accounts are the property of the Debtor. See account statements attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 13. Upon information and belief, Pappas holds an IOLTA account at Citizens Bank ("Pappas IOLTA Account") of which some or all of the funds being held in this account are the

property of the Debtor. See account statements attached hereto as  $\underline{\text{Exhibit B}}$ .

- 14. Upon information and belief, McSweeney holds an IOLTA account ("McSweeney IOLTA Account") of which some or all of the funds being held in the account are the property of the Debtor.
- 15. On or about October 16, 2008, the Trustee sent a demand letter to Prime Title and Pappas demanding an accounting and turnover of the funds belonging to the bankruptcy estate.
- 16. As of the date of this complaint, neither Prime Title, Pappas nor McSweeney have supplied the Trustee with an accounting or turned over any of the funds.
- 17. Interest accruing on the IOLTA accounts is property of the Massachusetts IOLTA Committee and must be accounted for and turned over.
- 18. The Trustee is seeking an accounting and turnover of any of the funds being held on behalf of the Debtor.

### COUNT 1

# TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §542 (Prime Title Services, Inc.)

- 19. The Trustee restates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 18.
- 20. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 541, the bankruptcy estate includes all legal or equitable interests of the debtor as of the commencement of the bankruptcy case and property acquired after the commencement of the case.
- 21. The funds currently held in the Prime Title Accounts were property of the Debtor at the commencement of the bankruptcy estate.
  - 22. Prime Title has refused to turnover the funds despite the Trustee's request.
- 23. Prime Title is still in possession of funds belonging to the Debtor's bankruptcy estate.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee prays that this court (1) order Prime Title to perform an accounting of the funds in its possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., (2) order Prime Title to turnover the funds in its possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., and (3) grant such other relief as the Court deems just.

### **COUNT II**

## TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §542 (Erin McSweeney)

- 24. The Trustee restates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 23.
- 25. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 541, the bankruptcy estate includes all legal or equitable interests of the debtor as of the commencement of the bankruptcy case and property acquired after the commencement of the case.
- 26. The funds currently held in McSweeney's IOLTA Account were property of the Debtor at the commencement of the bankruptcy estate.
  - 27. McSweeney has failed or refused to turnover the funds.
- 28. McSweeney is still in possession of funds belonging to the Debtor's bankruptcy estate.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee prays that this court (1) order McSweeney to perform an accounting of the funds in her possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., (2) order McSweeney to turnover the funds in her possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., and (3) grant such other relief as the Court deems just.

#### **COUNT III**

### TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §542 (Peter Pappas)

29. The Trustee restates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 28.

- 30. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 541, the bankruptcy estate includes all legal or equitable interests of the debtor as of the commencement of the bankruptcy case and property acquired after the commencement of the case.
- 31. The funds currently held in Pappas's IOLTA Account were property of the Debtor at the commencement of the bankruptcy estate.
  - 32. Pappas has failed or refused to turnover the funds.
  - 33. Pappas is still in possession of funds belonging to the Debtor's bankruptcy estate.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee prays that this court (1) order Pappas to perform an accounting of the funds in his possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., (2) order Pappas to turnover the funds in his possession being held on behalf of Prime Mortgage Financial Inc., and (3) grant such other relief as the Court deems just.

David M. Nickless, Trustee

/S/ Susan H. Christ
David M. Nickless, Esq.
Susan H. Christ, Esq.
Nickless and Phillips, P.C.
625 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 342-4590
BBO No. 371290
BBO No. 664354
schrist.nandp@verizon.net

### **EXHIBIT A**

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**Business Partners III Account Statement** 

Document Citizens Bank

1-800-862-6200

Call Citizens' PhoneBank anytime for account information, current rates and answers to your questions.

US002 BR222

PRIME TITLE SERVICES CONVEYANCING ACCOUNT 2 PARK CENTRAL DR 3RD SOUTHBOROUGH MA 01772



2 OF

Beginning November 01, 2008 through November 30, 2008

Contents				
Summary	Page	1		
Checking	Page	2		

Account	Account Number	Balance Last Statement	Balance This Statement	PRIME TITLE SERVICES CONVEYANCING ACCOUNT Business Partners Checking III	
DEPOSIT BALANCE Checking Business Partners Checking III		4,760.52	4,760.52		
	-			<b>=</b> —	Total Deposit Balance 4,760.52
Monthly combined balance to waiv Your monthly combined balance th	e monthly fee is is statement period is	50,000.00 4,760.52		<b>=</b> —	Total Relationship Balance 4,760.52

# Case 08-40238 Doc 38 Filed 03/06/09 Citizens Bank

1-800-862-6200

Call Citizens' PhoneBank anytime for account information, current rates and answers to your questions.

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DECEIVE

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Beginning November 01, 2008 through November 30, 2008

US002 BR222

PRIME TITLE SERVICES CONVEYANCING IOLTA
IOLTA
PETER PAPPAS ATTORNEY AT LAW
2 PARK CENTRAL DRIVE
SOUTHBOROUGH MA 01772

Commercial C	hecking	3			
SUMMARY					PRIME TITLE SERVICES CONVEYANC
Balance Calculat	ion		Balance		IOLTA PETER PAPPAS ATTORNEY AT LAW
Previous Balance		10,089.09	Average Daily Balance	10,080.32	IOLTA Checking
Checks Debits		.00 - 9.39 -	Interest		
Deposits & Credit	•	.00	Command Tudament Data	. 55%	
Interest Paid	3	4.85 -	August Dansantage Weeld Formed	. 59%	
-		10,084.55	Number of Dave Internet Farned	30	
_ Current Balance		10,004.55	= Interest Earned	4.85	
•			Interest Paid this Year	118.56	
-					Previous Balance
TRANSACTION	DETAI				10,089.09
Debits	D. 1 . 1 . 1				
Other Debits					
Date	Amount				
. 11/03	9.39	DDA Interest Transfer			Total Debits
					9.39
Interest					
Date	Amount 4.85	Description Interest			
11/28	4.05	Titlelest			Total Interest Paid
					4.85
					Current Balance
					10,084.55
Daily Balance				Dalaces	22,00000
Date	Bala	nce Date	Balance Date	Balance	

#### NEWS FROM CITIZENS

11/03

10,079.70

10,084.55

11/28

<sup>--</sup>Give Help. Give Hope. Be Inspired. Please join us in saluting our new Champions in Action at citizensbank.com/community.

### **EXHIBIT B**

**Commercial Account** Statement



OF 1

1-800-862-6200

Call Citizens' PhoneBank anytime for account information, current rates and answers to your questions.

Citizens Baňk

US002 BR222

PETER C PAPPAS ATTY AT LAW IOLTA 2 PARK CENTRAL DRIVE SOUTHBOROUGH MA 01772



Beginning November 01, 2008 through November 30, 2008

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1 131111	nercia	, , , , , , , , , , , ,	K

SUMMARY			
Balance Calculation		Balance	
Previous Balance	9,387.05	Average Daily Balance	9,387.05
Checks	.00 -	•	•
Debits	.00 -	Interest	
Deposits & Credits	.00 +	Current Interest Rate	. 55%
Interest Paid	4.51 +	Annual Percentage Yield Earned	. 59%
Current Balance	9,391.56 =	Number of Days Interest Earned	30
	7,000,000	Interest Eamed	4.51
		Interest Paid this Year	110.01

PETER C PAPPAS ATTY AT LAW **IOLTA IOLTA Checking** 

**Previous Balance** 

9,387.05

TRANSACTION DETAILS Interest

Date

Amount Description

11/28

4.51 Interest

<b>A</b>	Total Interest Paid
0	4.51
	Current Balance
<u> </u>	9,391.56

**Daily Balance** Date

11/28

Balance 9,391.56 Date

Balance

Date

Balance

#### NEWS FROM CITIZENS

--Give Help. Give Hope. Be Inspired. Please join us in saluting our new Champions in Action at citizensbank.com/community.